

Compliments of...



## Mary Hayashi

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REV. 4/06



# HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW





California State Assembly

**MARY HAYASHI**

18TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

**Dear Friend:**

Allow me to introduce you to my buddy, Billy. He's today's guide to help you understand how a bill becomes a law.

So what's a bill you might ask? A bill is an idea that would improve the lives of your community written down on a piece of paper for others to read. Not all bills will become law. Like the game, Simon Says, a law requires everyone to follow it. Before a bill becomes a law in California, it needs to be debated and voted on by your state representatives — Assemblymembers and Senators. If approved by the Assembly and Senate, then the bill goes to the Governor for a signature. If the Governor signs the bill, then it becomes law.

To learn more, just follow my buddy, Billy, throughout this coloring book. He ventures through several exciting games, facts, and surprises. Best of all, feel free to take-out your favorite crayon and color him to your liking.

Good luck and have fun learning about turning a good idea into a new law.

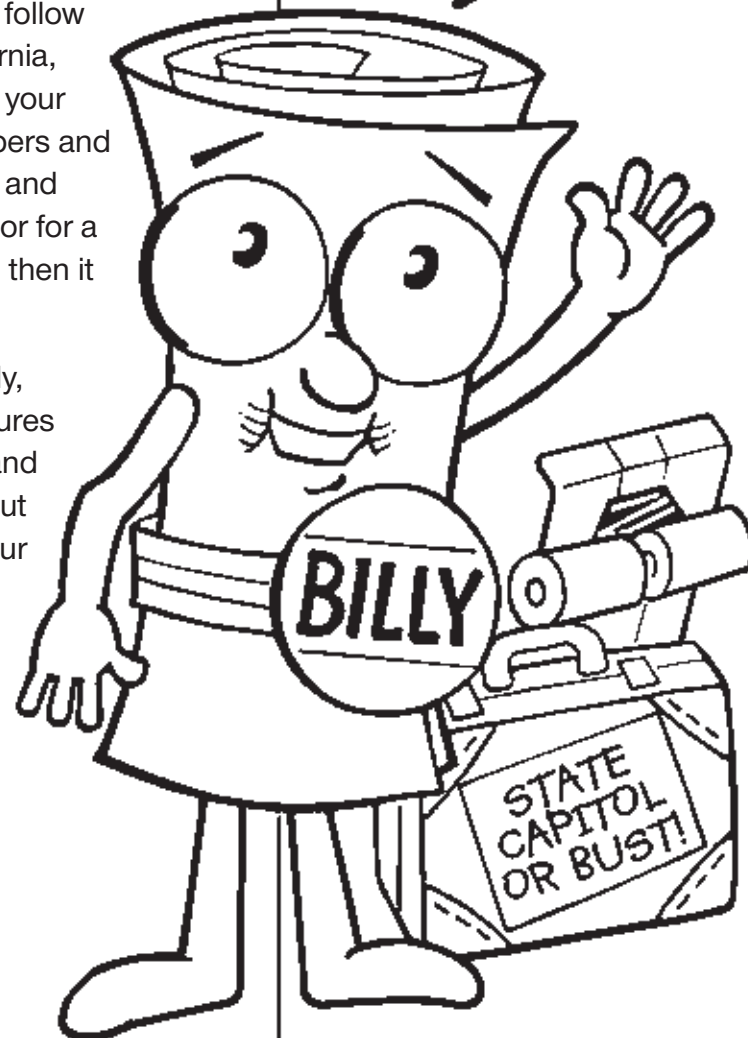
Sincerely,

*Mary Hayashi*

MARY HAYASHI

Assemblymember, 18th District

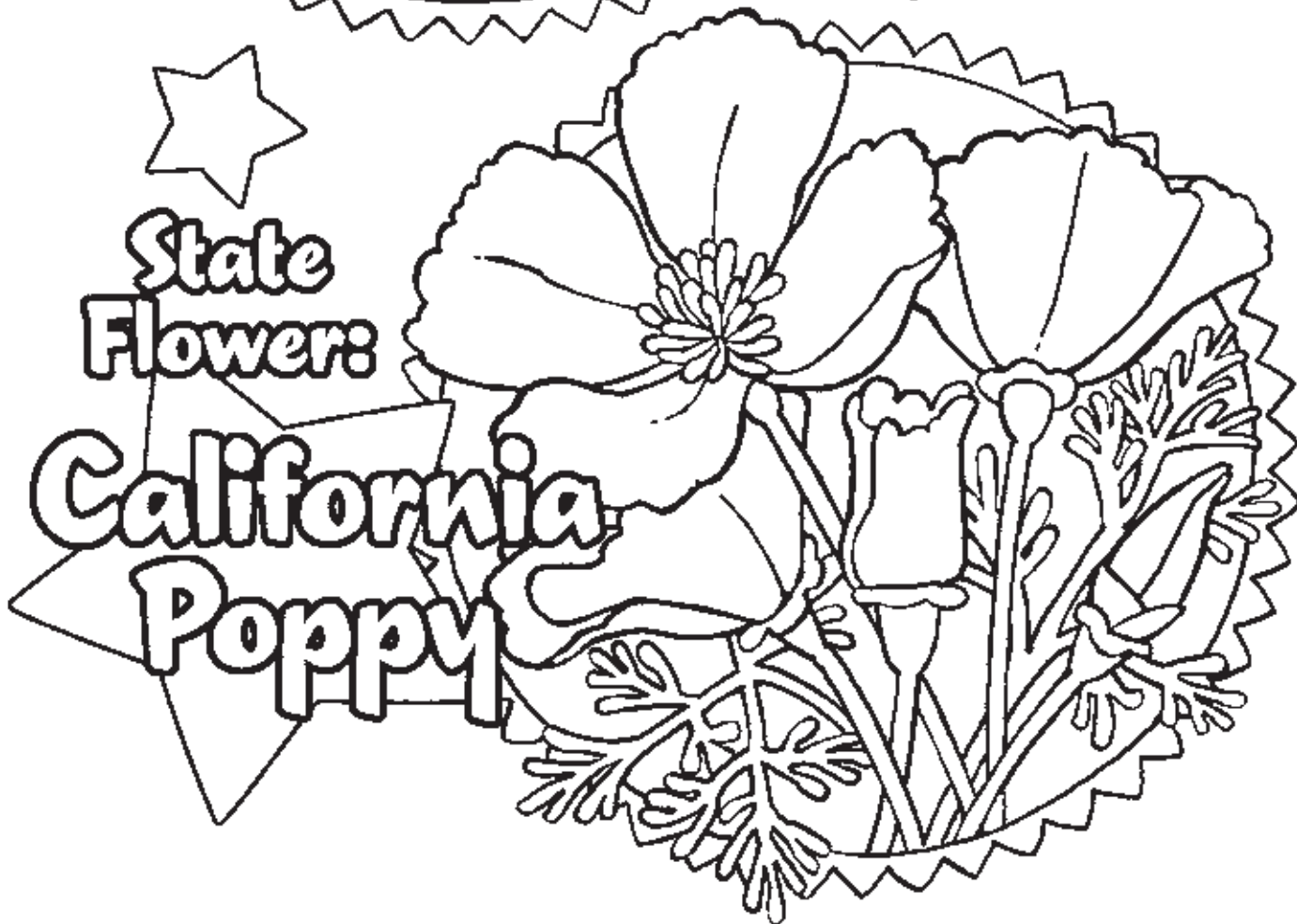
*Hey Kids!*  
I'm Billy—your guide  
through the maze of  
California government.  
Today I'm going to  
show you how new  
laws are made.



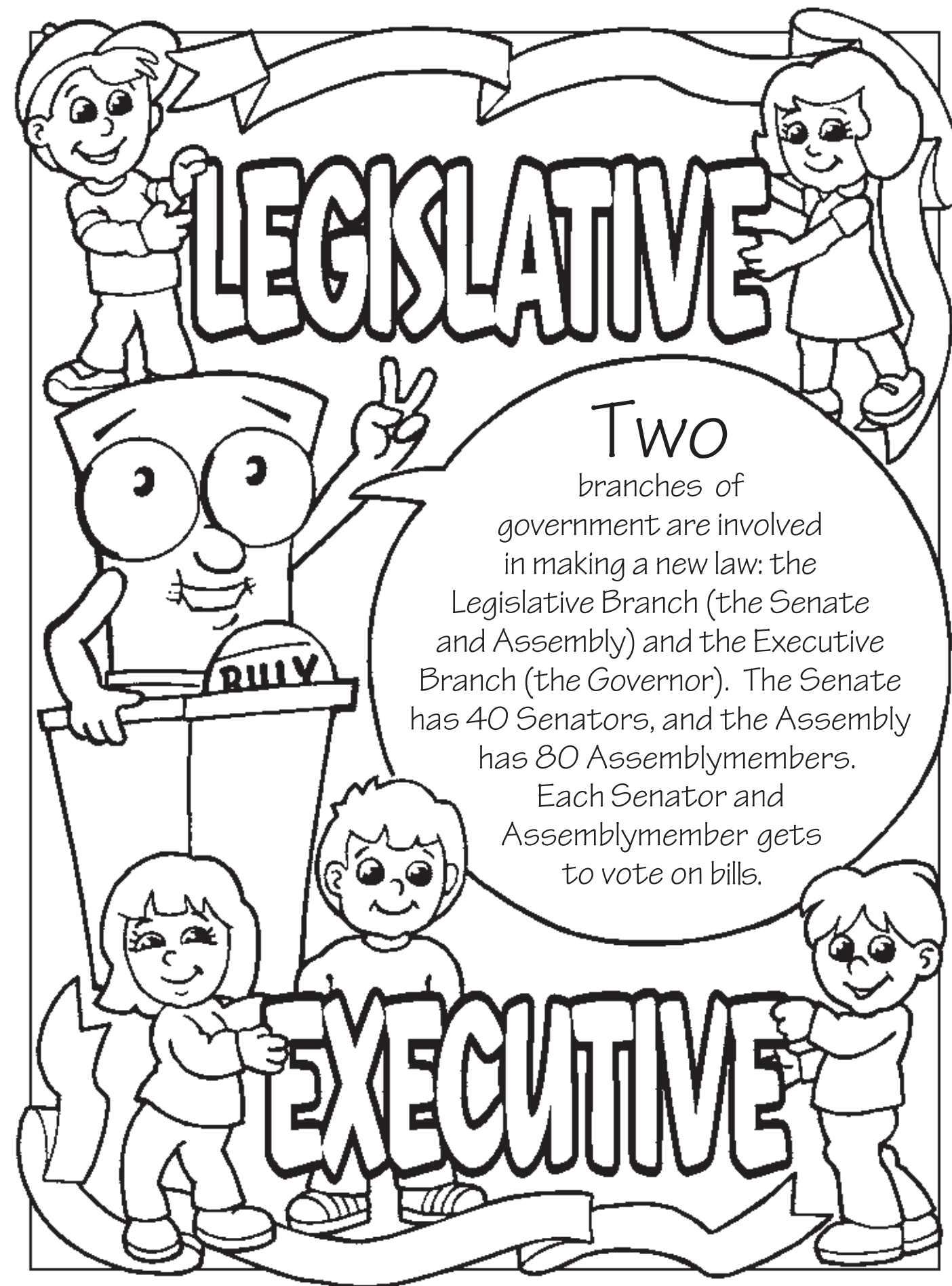




State  
Animal:  
Grizzly  
Bear



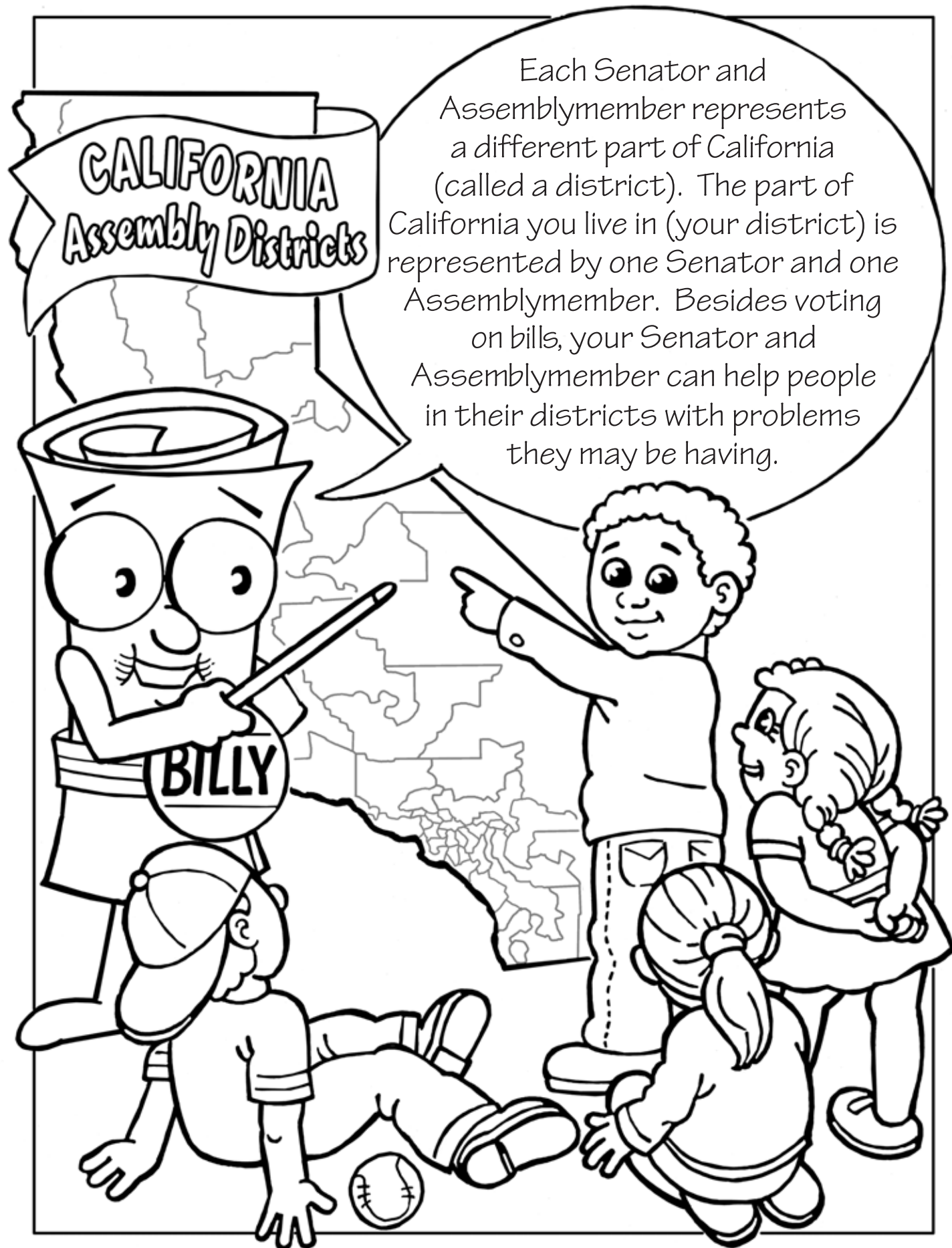
State  
Flower:  
California  
Poppy



LEGISLATIVE

Two  
branches of  
government are involved  
in making a new law: the  
Legislative Branch (the Senate  
and Assembly) and the Executive  
Branch (the Governor). The Senate  
has 40 Senators, and the Assembly  
has 80 Assemblymembers.  
Each Senator and  
Assemblymember gets  
to vote on bills.

EXECUTIVE



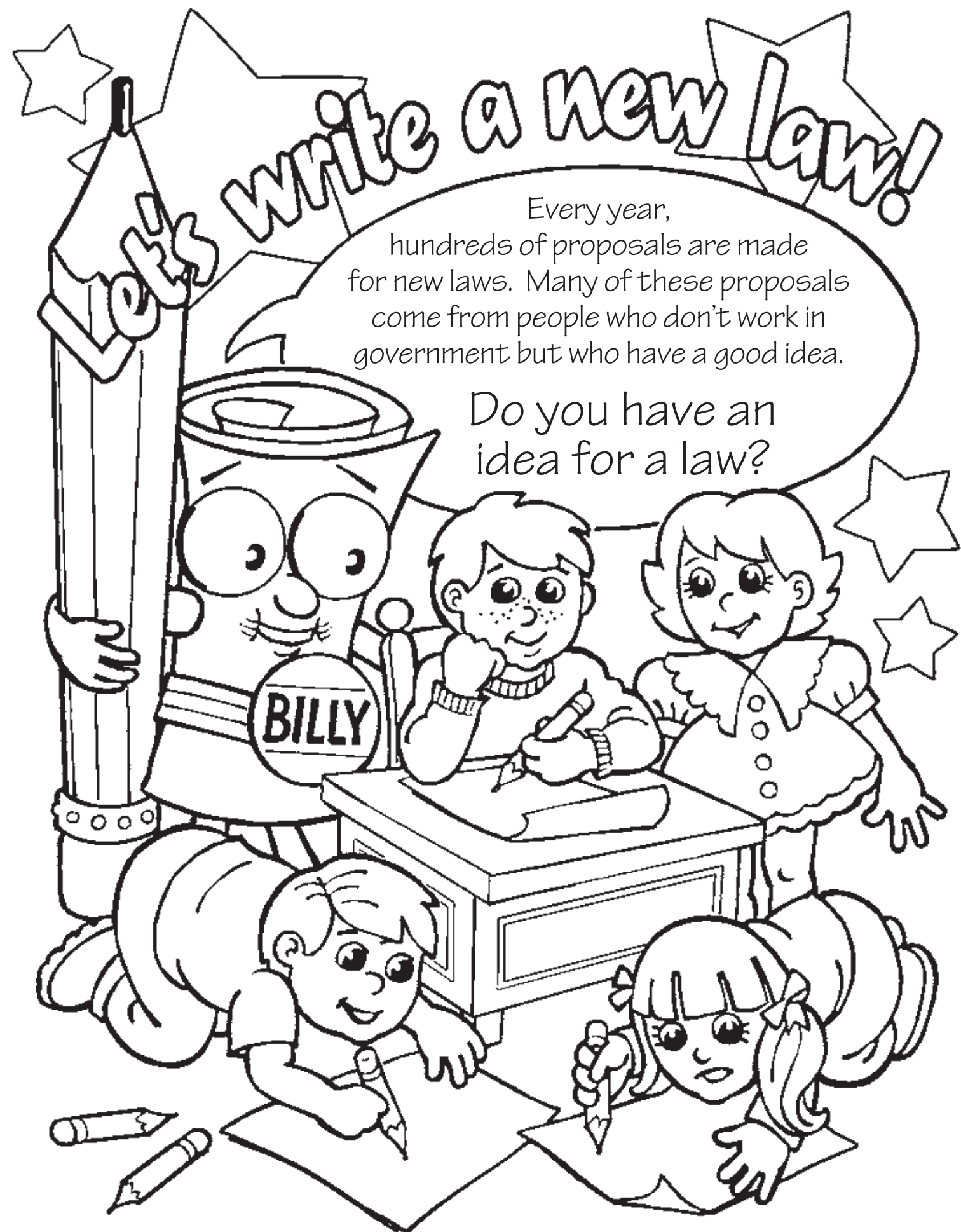
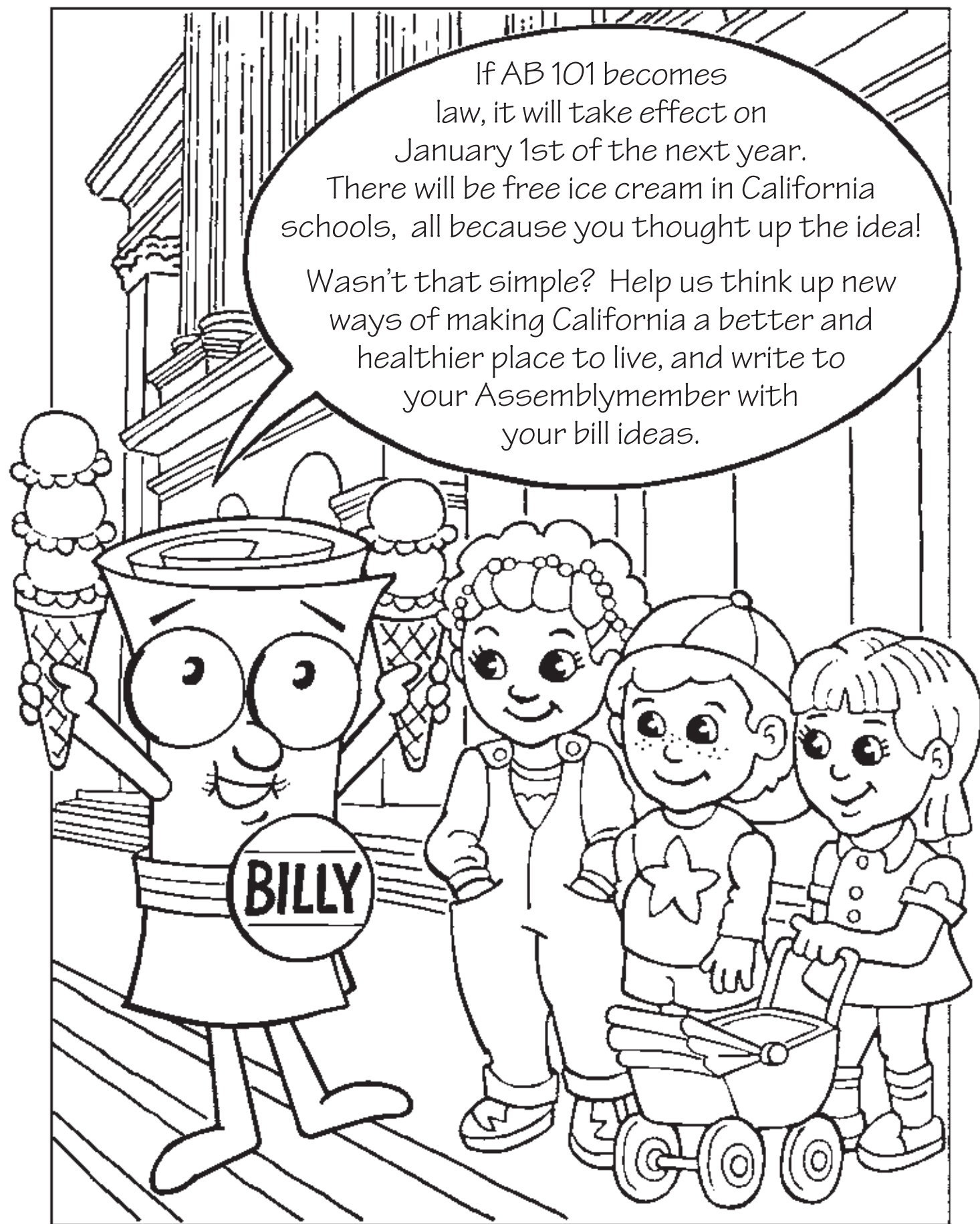
Find the following words from the word bank in the puzzle.  
They may be up, down, horizontal, diagonal, upside down or backwards.

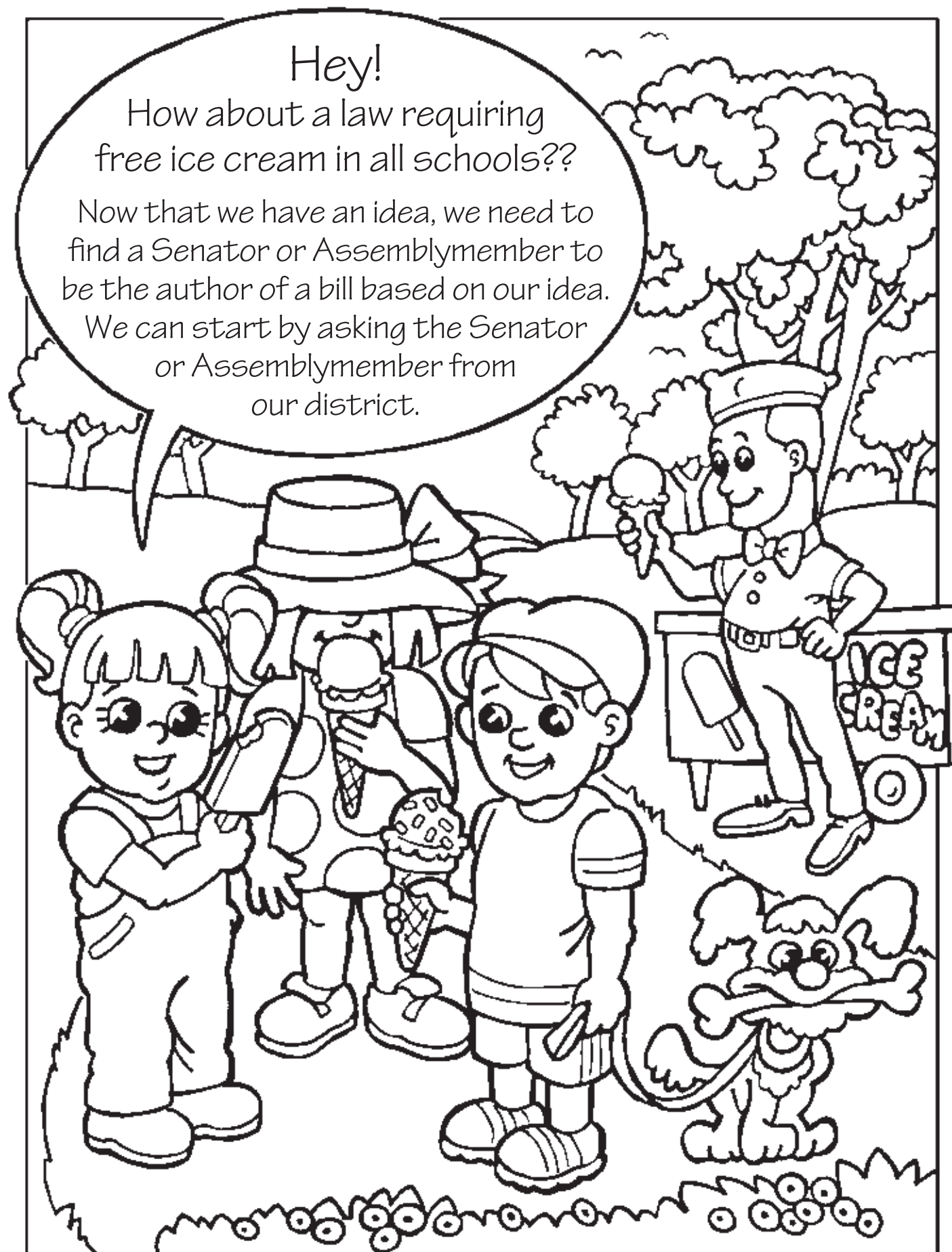
ASSEMBLY  
BILL  
CAPITOL  
GOVERNOR

LAW  
PASS  
SENATE

SPEAKER  
VETO  
VOTE





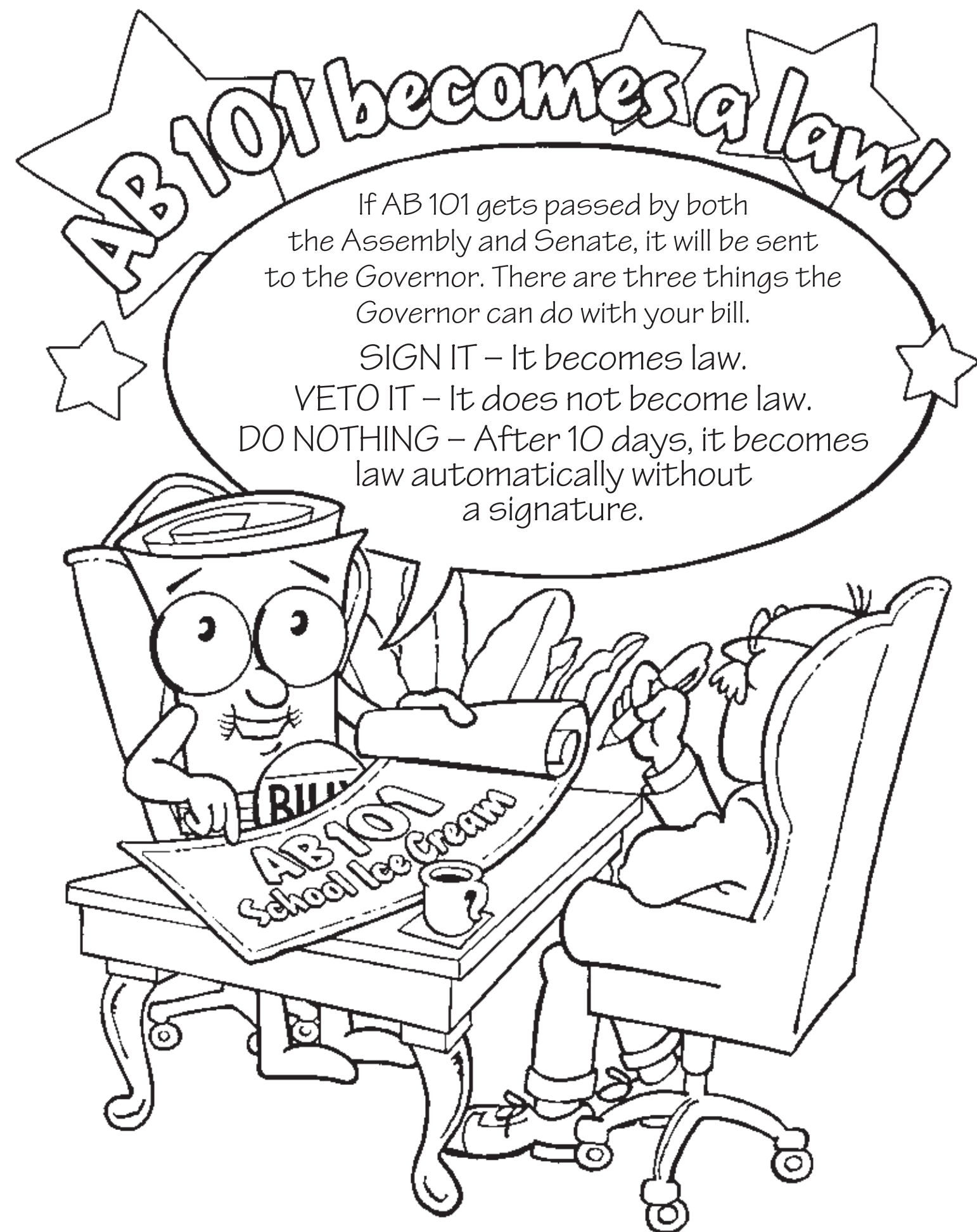


Hey!

How about a law requiring  
free ice cream in all schools??

Now that we have an idea, we need to  
find a Senator or Assemblymember to  
be the author of a bill based on our idea.

We can start by asking the Senator  
or Assemblymember from  
our district.



AB 101 becomes a law!

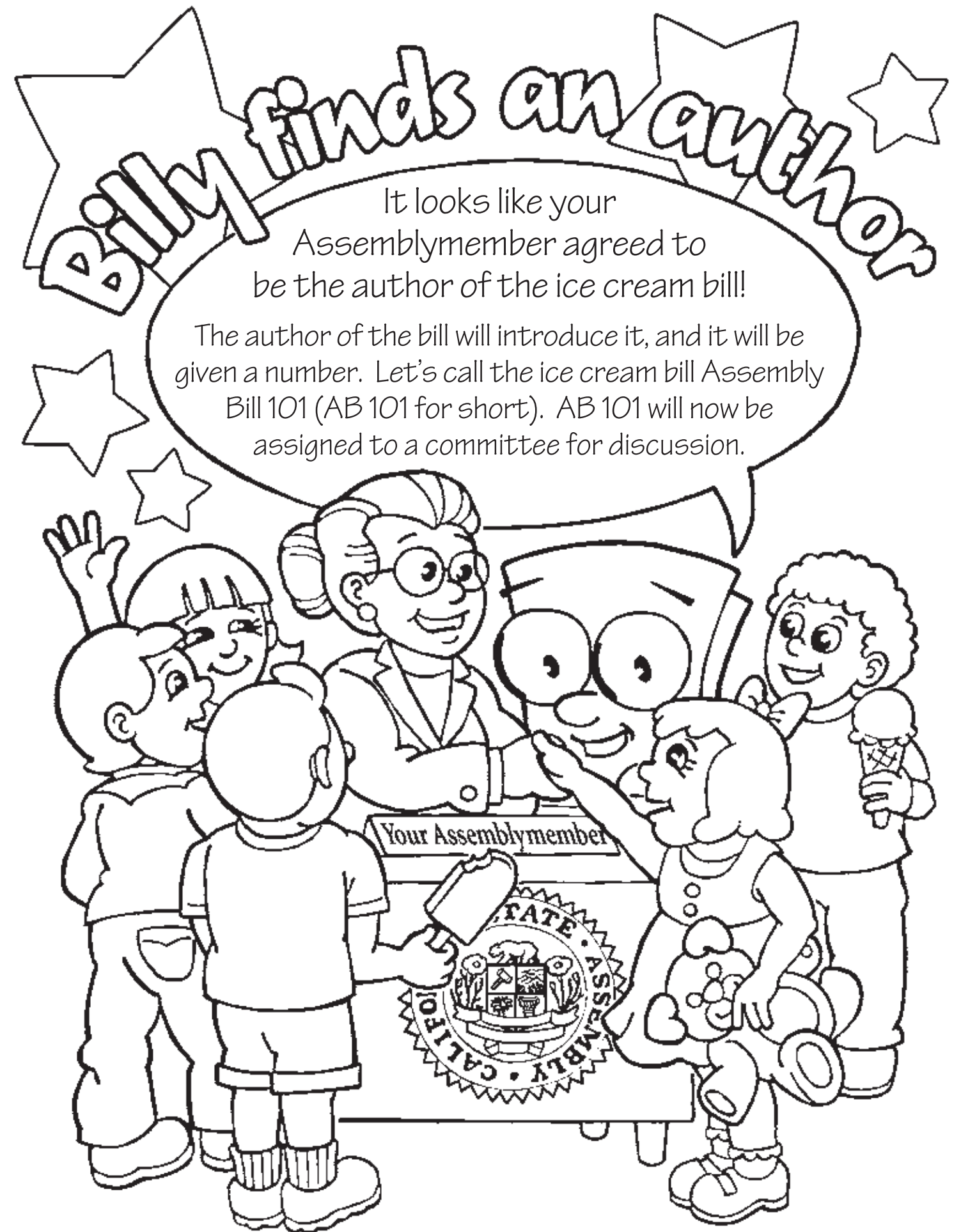
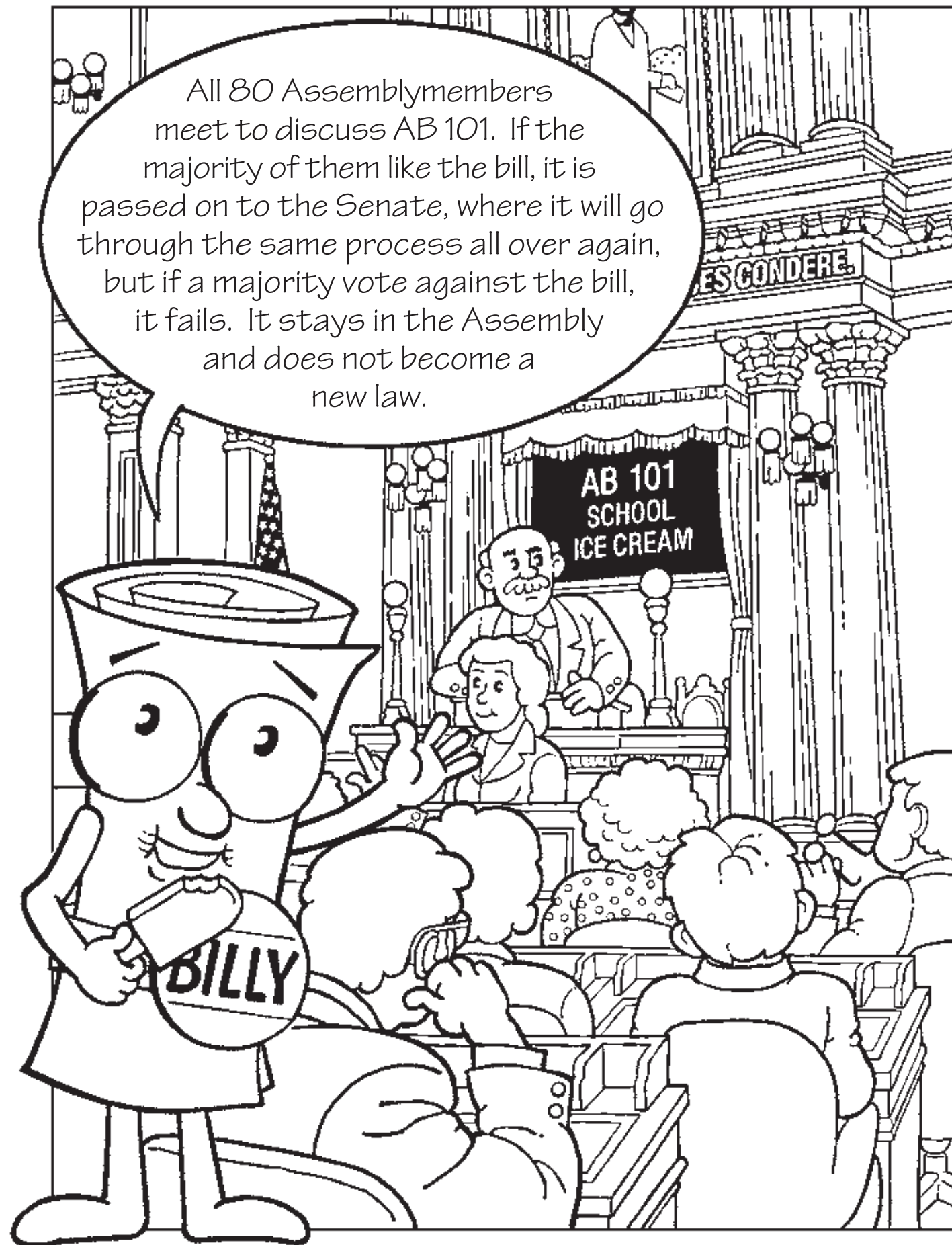
If AB 101 gets passed by both  
the Assembly and Senate, it will be sent  
to the Governor. There are three things the  
Governor can do with your bill.

SIGN IT – It becomes law.

VETO IT – It does not become law.

DO NOTHING – After 10 days, it becomes  
law automatically without  
a signature.





# An Assembly Committee

is a small group of Assemblymembers. Committees hold public hearings where anyone can come and discuss a bill. There are many committees, each discussing bills on specific subjects — for example, one committee will discuss bills about cars and one committee will discuss bills about doctor visits. A bill could also be discussed by more than one committee.



After a bill is discussed at a hearing, the committee members vote on whether it would be a good law. If the majority of the committee's members like the bill, they pass it and send it to the full Assembly for another vote.

Guess what? The committee liked the ice cream bill. AB 101 has passed!

